

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13 OMB-01 TRSE-00 ACDA-07 DHA-02
/091 W

-----161136Z 017004 /17

P R 160956Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY ACCRA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8025
INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMCONSUL CAPE TWON
USMISSION USUN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 1 OF 2 ACCRA 3651

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY
LONDON FOR SEITZ

MAPUTO FOR DON PETTERSON (AMBASSADOR YOUNG'S PARTY)

EO 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR RH GH
SUBJ: SITHOLE PRESS RELEASE

REF: ACCRA 3648 (NOTAL)

AS INDICATED REFTTEL, FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF PRESS STATEMENT
SITHOOLE TOLD US HE WILL RELEASE ON MAY 19:

1. "WE HAVE REACHED A CRITICAL STATE IN OUR FIGHT FOR THE FREEDOM
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AND INDEPENDENCE OF ZIMBABWE. EXTERNAL FORCES DESIRE TO IMPOSE
UPON US LEADERS WHO WERE NOT CHOSEN BY THE PEOPLE OF ZIMBABWE
AND WHO THEREFORE DO NOT HOLD THEMSELVES RESPONSIBLE TO US BUT
TO THESE FORCES. ZIMBABWEANS ARE BEING TREATED AS PEOPLE WHO
DO NOT HAVE A WILL OF THEIR OWN, AND FALSE LEADERS ARE BEING
FORCED UPON THEM BY THE SAME FORCES.

2. AS A RESULT OF THIS UNWARRANTED EXTERNAL INTERFERENCE MANY OF OUR SONS AND DAUGHTERS HAVE UNNECESSARILY LOST THEIR LIVES IN THE BID TO IMPOSE THE MASSIVELY REJECTED PATRIOTIC FRONT WHICH IS ENTIRELY AN EXTERNAL CREATION HAVING NO SUPPORT AMONG THE PEOPLE OF ZIMBABWE EXCEPT AMONG THE FRONTLINE STATES. THE FRONTLINE STATES ARE USING EVERY CONCEIVABLE FORM OF PRESSURE TO IMPOSE THE PATRIOTIC FRONT UPON THE PEOPLE OF ZIMBABWE, BUT WE HAVE VOWED WITH OUR VERY LIVES THAT DICTATORSHIP FROM WITHIN AND FROM WITHOUT ZIMBABWE WE SHALL NOT HAVE IN OUR COUNTRY.

3. AS A RESULT OF THE MACHINATIONS OF THE FRONTLINE STATES OUR PEOPLE ARE BEING DELIBERATELY CONFUSED, AND THEIR ENERGIES DIVERTED FROM OUR REAL GOALS OF MAJORITY RULE AND HENCE DELAYING THE DAY OF ZIMBABWE'S FREEDOM AND INDEPENDENCE.

4. OUR SONS AND DAUGHTERS ARE FIGHTING, SUFFERING AND DYING FOR THE INDEPENDENCE OF ZIMBABWE, AND IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT THEIR DEATHS SHALL NOT BE IN VAIN. OUR SONS AND DAUGHTERS MUST NOT BE USED TO PROMOTE FOREIGN POLITICAL ARRANGEMENTS LIKE TO PATRIOTIC FRONT, BUT TO BRING INDEPENDENCE TO OUR COUNTRY.

5. IT IS OUR GALLANT SONS AND DAUGHTERS, AND NOT THE SO-CALLED PATRIOTIC FRONT, SUPPORTED BY THE FRONTLINE STATES, WHO HAVE BROUGHT ABOUT BASIC CHANGES IN THE POLITICAL CLIMATE OF OUR COUNTRY. NOTHING SHORT OF MAJORITY RULE CAN CAUSE US TO LAY DOWN OUR ARMS.

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6. IT SHOULD BE REMEMBERED THAT ZIMBABWE IS NOT A COLONY OF THE FRONTLINE STATES. ONLY THE VIEWS AND FEELINGS OF THE PEOPLE OF ZIMBABWE AND NOT THOSE OF THE FRONTLINE SHOULD PREVAIL WHEN IT COMES TO THE QUESTION OF ZIMBABWE. WE DO NOT ASPIRE TO BE CARBON OR DUPLICATE COPIES OF ANY OTHER COUNTRY, EAST OR WEST, BUT TO BE OURSELVES IN ALL RESPECTS. FREEDOM FOR US MEANS AMONG OTHER THINGS FREEDOM FROM UNDUE EXTERNAL INTERFERENCE, FRONTLINE STATES INCLUDED.

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01

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SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13 OMB-01 TRSE-00 ACDA-07 DHA-02

/091 W

-----161136Z 016899 /17

P R 160956Z MAY 77

FM AMEMBASSY ACCRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8026

INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY GABRONE

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

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CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

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7. IT IS AN OPEN SECRET THAT THE SO-CALLED PATRIOTIC FRONT IS PREPARING FOR A CIVIL WAR IN A FREE AND INDEPENDENT ZIMBABWE SINCE IT HAS NO SUPPORT WITHIN THE COUNTRY, AND IT IS WELL KNOWN THAT ONE OF THE FRONTLINE STATES IS PRIVY TO THIS SCHEME AND ACTUALLY FINANCES IT TO INSTALL IN ZIMBABWE A LEADER OF HER OWN CHOICE WHO IS MASSIVELY REJECTED BY THE PEOPLE OF ZIMBABWE.

8. I AS FOUNDER OF ZIMBABWE'S ARMED STRUGGLE FEEL PARTICULARLY RESPONSIBLE THAT OUR SONS AND DAUGHTERS DID NOT LAY DOWN THEIR LIVES TO START A CIVIL WAR TO PROMOTE MASSIVELY REJECTED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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LEADERS, BUT TO ENSURE A POLITICAL STABLE AND ECONOMICALLY PROSPEROUS INDEPENDENT ZIMBABWE.

9. WE ARE DETERMINED THAT THE POWER-HUNGRY PATRIOTIC FRONT SHALL NOT BE ALLOWED TO EXCHANGE OUR PRESENT BONDAGE FOR ANOTHER. WE SHALL NOT ALLOW EITHER THE FRONTLINE STATES OR THE PATRIOTIC FRONT TO USURP THE RIGHTS OF THE PEOPLE AND PREDETERMINE THE NATIONAL LEADERSHIP OF OUR COUNTRY. EQUALLY, WE WILL NOT ALLOW THE PATRIOTIC FRONT TO CONTINUE TO SQUANDER THE LIVES OF OUR CHILDREN IN ORDER TO ACHIEVE THEIR OWN IMMORAL ENDS.

10. WHEN WE EMBARKED ON THE ARMED STRUGGLE THIRTEEN YEARS AGO, WE DID NOT DO THAT OUT OF LIGHT-MINDEDNESS, BUT OUT OF A HIGH SENSE OF DUTY TO OURSELVES AS PEOPLE OF ZIMBABWE. OUR WHOLE OBJECTIVE WAS AND STILL IS TO ACHIEVE THIS OBJECTIVE. IF THE PRESENT PROJECTED CONSTITUTIONAL CONFERENCE CAN PRODUCE MAJORITY RULE, THE PRESENT ARMED STRUGGLE WILL COME TO AN END. THIS IS WHY I ENDORSED THE PRESENT BRITISH INITIATIVES FOR CONSTITUTIONAL CONFERENCE.

11. IT IS ENCOURAGING THAT AT LONG LAST BRITAIN WHICH SEEMS TO HAVE NOW AWAKENED TO HER COLONIAL RESPONSIBILITY IS TAKING SERIOUS STEPS TO SEE THAT A CONSTITUTIONAL CONFERENCE IS CONVENED TO THRASH OUT THE VEXING PROBLEM WHICH HAS BEDEVILLED ZIMBABWE FOR THE LAST THIRTEEN YEARS.

12. THERE IS NO REASON FOR THE WHITES TO FEAR AN INDEPENDENT ZIMBABWE. THEIR SKILLS AND EXPERTISE WILL CONTINUE TO BE NEEDED, BUT ABOVE ALL, WITH OR WITHOUT THESE SKILLS AND EXPERTISE, THEY ARE ENTITLED TO HAVING A HOME LIKE ANYONE OF US IN A FREE AND INDEPENDENT ZIMBABWE. OUR FUNDAMENTAL POLICY IS ONE OF NON-RACIALISM.

13. MY OWN SUPPORTERS IN PARTICULAR AND THE PEOPLE OF ZIMBABWE IN GENERAL HAVE BEEN INSISTENT THAT I SHOULD RETURN HOME IN ORDER TO GIVE THEM A CLEAR DIRECTION IN THEIR DETERMINED OFFICIAL USE

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MINATION TO REMAIN MASTERS OF THEIR OWN DESTINY INSTEAD OF THE FRONTLINE STATES ASSUMING THAT ROLE. I HAVE NO ALTERNATIVE THEREFORE BUT TO RETURN HOME IN FULL COMPLIANCE WITH THE DEMAND OF MY OWN PEOPLE, AND I LEAVE THE REST TO THEM.

14. I BELIEVE GIVEN THE RIGHT ATMOSPHERE THE PEOPLE OF ZIMBABWE CAN AND MUST FIND A SOLUTION TO THE PRESENT PROBLEM SO THAT WE CAN DIRECT OUR ENERGIES TO MORE CREATIVE PURSUITS THAT WILL GIVE BIRTH TO A FREE AND JUST SOCIETY IN WHICH THE HUMAN WORTH OF EVERY PERSON SHALL COUNT ABOVE EVERYTHING ELSE."

15. DECON MAY 19, 1977. SMITH

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TEXT, INDEPENDENCE, PRESS RELEASES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 16-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977ACCRA03651
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770173-0124
Format: TEL
From: ACCRA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770555/aaaabvdo.tel
Line Count: 215
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 2f354693-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 ACCRA 3648
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2512381
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SITHOLE PRESS RELEASE
TAGS: PFOR, SOPN, RH, GH, (SITHOLE, NDABANINGI)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/2f354693-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009